

Watertown Area Chamber of Commerce
Minutes
April 21, 2010
(Watertown Community Center)
www.watertown-chamber.com

The meeting was called to order by President Kyle McDonough. There were 23 present. Introductions were made. Meal catered by Subway.

- Sue Burk presented the current treasury update, thanked those who have paid their dues, and requested those who have not paid yet to please do so.
- April Engen informed the Chamber that the Lions would prefer the Chamber open house and other activities be moved to Saturday morning to take advantage of the pedestrians drawn downtown for the parade and craft fair.
- Tom Romanoski spoke about the additional expenses incurred with the “Taste of Watertown” being moved away from downtown.
- A task force has been called for to promote business in Watertown, especially during a time when access might be difficult. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday May 5, 12:00 at the Watertown Community Center. All members of the community are invited and encouraged to attend.
- A motion allowing the Executive Committee to make financial decisions regarding the “Keep It Open” signage up to \$1500.00 was passed unanimously.
- Please contact Scott Cassidy if you are interested in participating in the open house event being planned to coincide with Rails to Trails.

Committees Reports:

Retail Committee: Scott Cassidy-Chair (designed to come up with new ideas to support local businesses.) An idea for Rails to Trails is to have a “Watertown Hold-‘Em” event similar to the Holiday Open House. Each business will determine their own hours, with a drawing for shoppers who collect a playing card at each business. Five cards are needed to enter the drawing, with the best poker hand also winning a prize. Additionally, the idea to sell hot dogs, chips and a beverage either during the open house hours or at the “Taste of Watertown” event at Highland was discussed. The city wide garage sales event is scheduled for May 20-22. Registration forms can be found on the Chamber’s website.

Ambassador Committee: Judy Vanderlinde-Chair (welcoming and inviting new businesses to the Chamber of Commerce and to Watertown, and to

keep current members active in the Chamber.) If you know of any new businesses in the area please let Judy Vanderlinde or Sue Burke know.

Educator's Dinner Committee: Abbie McDonald-Chair (plan and perform the educator's dinner, September 2010.)

Performing Arts Committee: Ken Grotbo- Chair (coordinate with Watertown-Mayer Performing Arts center to sponsor events.) The Chamber has no events planned at the Performing Arts Center at this time.

"Keep It Open" Task Force Cordination Committee:- Co-Chairs Nicholas Hoese, and Rose Rosdahl (coordinate with the community "Keep It Open" task force) Pricing for road signs was presented, along with a sense of urgency as construction starts in two weeks. A map of detour routes and local through streets will be published with the Herald Journal if enough advertisers sign up. Please contact Bruce Johnson if you are interested; ad prices start at \$39.00. Flyers with alternate route maps are also being planned.

Dave Martini presented the coming road construction.

- Construction phasing and time lines.
- Detour routes and completed roadway design plans.
- Roundabout deciding factors.
 - Forces high speed traffic to slow down.
 - Makes Pedestrian movement as safe as possible.

Meeting adjourned at 1:01pm

Next meeting: May 19, 2010 at Watertown Community Center with Subway catering.